



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Acting Director of Health Services

At its meeting held April 18, 2006, the Board took the following action:

80-E

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“The State Department of Health Services contracts with Los Angeles County to provide health facility inspections within the County. Under the ongoing contract with the State, the Department’s Health Facilities Inspection Division (HFID) is the Los Angeles County district office of State Licensing and Certification. As such, it inspects licenses and certifies hospitals, nursing homes, intermediate care facilities, community clinics, home health agencies, and other facilities requiring a health license and Medicare/Medi-Cal certification.

“In recent years, the State has significantly reduced funding to licensing and certification Statewide, including reductions to Los Angeles County’s contract. This reduced funding has caused a reduction in the number of field evaluators, resulting in many new home health agencies and other applicants waiting for years for licensing and certification.

“Compounding this problem, the State expects the HFID to finish its top priorities each year before it will allow HFID to inspect and certify new agencies. This makes it nearly impossible to predict when an agency on the waiting list will be licensed.

“It is unacceptable to allow a backlog of inspections that result in such extended waiting times for the licensure of quality health facilities that are vital to the health and well-being of our community.”

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80-E (Continued)

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Knabe, unanimously carried (Supervisor Burke being absent), the Board took the following actions:

1. Instructed the Acting Director of Health Services to:
 - Conduct a full review of the health facility inspection process;
 - Work in conjunction with the Chief Administrative Officer and County Counsel, and negotiate with the State Department of Health Services on amending the County's licensure and certification contract No. 05-45391 with the State; and
 - Report back to the Board within 30 days; and
2. Authorized the Mayor and Acting Director of Health Services to write letters to the Governor and the Legislature, supporting the Governor's budget request for additional funding and positions for State Licensing and Certification activities, to resolve the backlog that has developed over the past three years.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel